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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 25 July 1951

SUBJECT Military Activities in the Southern
Border Area

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1. There is a large concentration of troops in the area surrounding Volary (N49/Q55).* Empty barns and houses have been confiscated for troop billets, and in some cases occupied houses have been evacuated to accomodate troops. A military command post, guarded on a 24-hour basis, is located on an evacuated farm opposite the Volary railroad station.** Materiel, weapons and ammunition are brought into the area in covered trucks by night. No border zone entry permits are issued to civilian non-residents.
2. Construction of an indefinite number of military installations is also being conducted near Drazicky (050/L91); about one-third of the buildings are underground. The buildings, which appear well constructed, are located in a heavy woods with only two roads leading up to them, and they are closely guarded. The workmen, who are checked in and out of work as well as watched on the job, are only permitted to enter the premises with special police authorization. Civilian inhabitants of the area are even forbidden to discuss the construction.
3. Furthermore, 60 T-34 tanks arrived in the area of Drazicky at the end of February 1951. An additional 100 T-34 tanks are also temporarily located in the caserne at Tabor (050/L01). All of these tanks are, according to source, well camouflaged and most of them are garaged in special, tunnel-like trenches.

25X1

* Comment: This troop concentration may merely be part of the preparations for military border maneuvers in Western Bohemia, which maneuvers are expected to be conducted around this time.

25X1

** Comment: This command post may be the headquarters of one or more of the four companies of the special 66 Infantry Battalion (headquarters at Vimperk - N50/Q46) known to be stationed in Volary to cooperate with the SND-PS Brigade No. 9500 whose headquarters are also known to be at Volary.

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